

APD NEWS

Public Information Office: (512) 974-5017

715 E. 8th St. Austin, Texas 78701

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 28, 2009

Contact: Public Information Office, 974-5017

UPDATE: Arrest Warrants Issued

Financial Crimes Detectives seek assistance in 6th street area credit card thefts

Cases: 11 Cases over 10 months

Dates: Friday and Saturday nights

Time: Late night/Early Morning hours

Location: 6th Street bars

Charged: Crystal Gail Cooley, Black female, DOB 12-09-79

The APD Financial Crimes unit is seeking the public's assistance in identifying four female suspects wanted for stealing credit cards and making unauthorized transactions. APD has recently received two reports in which males were targeted in the 6th Street area by a group of female suspects for the purposes of stealing their credit or debit cards. The behavior of the suspects is similar to 9 prior cases reported in 2008. Both recent victims report that they were possibly drugged due to their lapse in memory of the night's events.

All victims have been males who have reportedly disappeared from 6th Street after being separated from their friends. The victims woke up in the morning with little to no memory of the previous night except being taken from the 6th street area in a van or sport utility vehicle with 3-4 females. The victims found that their credit cards were missing and several unauthorized transactions had occurred during the previous night. Video footage of the fraudulent transactions and close up facial photos from ATM machines revealed four unidentified black females.

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to call the APD Financial Crimes Division at 974-5290 or Crime Stoppers at 472-8477.



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Update: On October 5, 2009, Crystal Cooley was arrested in Georgia on an unrelated case. She has been charged with Debit Card Abuse in reference to the above incidents.

Media Advisory: Financial Crimes Detective Brenda Bauzon will be available for interviews at 1pm today at APD Headquarters. Please call APD PIO if you plan to attend.

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